

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) System for lifting and lowering an object, comprising a group of at least two mobile lifting columns, each lifting column comprising:

a displaceable frame with a standing mast part;

a carrier displaceable along the mast part for engaging the object to be lifted;

a drive for moving the carrier along the mast part;

a control for controlling at least the drive; and

communication means for communicating with at least other lifting columns in the group via a transmission or broadcast path,

wherein at least one of the lifting columns in the group includes selectively user operable selection means for, when actuated, selecting any of the lifting columns from the group for a sub-group, and wherein communications in the system are, at least during selection of said at least one lifting column for the sub-group, based on master-slave principles, ~~and wherein~~ a selected lifting column, being the first selected column for a sub-group, is as a result of first selection thereof a master lifting column to control the remaining slave lifting column or columns in the sub-group, wherein the selection means of a slave column is adapted to read and adopt an identification for the purpose of selecting the slave column in a sub-group associated with the master column, and for thereafter addressing the slave column in the process of lifting the object, wherein the identification is readable from an identification component associated with the master column.

2. (Previously Presented) System according to claim 1, wherein at least one slave column, being a slave column during at least selection, comprises operating means for combined actuation of the lifting columns in the sub-group of selected lifting columns in operation during lifting of the object.

3. (Currently Amended) System according to claim 2, wherein the communication means are of a wireless type for ~~contact with the control of~~ controlling the lifting column.

4. (Previously Presented) System as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selection means of the master column are adapted to transmit a delete signal, at the beginning of the selection process, to at least one other lifting column or to at least one lifting column selected at an earlier stage with the relevant master column in a sub-group, in order to cancel the previous selection thereof.

5. (Previously Presented) System as claimed in claim 4, wherein the selection means of the master column gives to a user an indication of each lifting column available for selection in the sub-group, and comprise associated selectors for selecting lifting columns for the sub-group to be selected as slave columns.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) System as claimed in claim ~~[[6]]~~1, wherein the identification ~~component can be read from~~is an identification card ~~associated with the master column.~~

8. (Currently Amended) System as claimed in claim ~~[[6]]~~1, wherein the identification ~~is~~
includes at least one of a designation of the master column, an identification of the identification
~~card~~component, a random number generated for instance by the master column, ~~or~~and a date
and time designation generated by the system.

9. (Currently Amended) Method of selecting at least one lifting column in a system for
lifting and lowering an object, the system comprising a group of at least two mobile lifting
columns, each lifting column comprising: a displaceable frame with a standing mast part; a
carrier displaceable along the mast part for engaging the object to be lifted; a drive for moving
the carrier along the mast part; a control for controlling at least the drive; and communication
means communicating with at least other lifting columns in the group via a transmission or
broadcast path, the method comprising:

selecting at least one of the lifting columns in the group for a sub-group ~~by selectively~~
~~actuating user operable selection means~~; and

communicating, at least during selection of said lifting column for the sub-group on the
basis of master-slave principles, wherein a first lifting column is initially selected as a master
lifting column for the sub-group, wherein a selection of a slave column includes reading and
adopting an identification for the purpose of selecting the slave column in a sub-group associated
with the master column, and for thereafter addressing the slave column in the process of lifting

the object, wherein reading the identification is performed from an identification component associated with the master column.

10. (Previously Presented) System as claimed in claim 2, wherein the selection means of the master column are adapted to transmit a delete signal, at the beginning of the selection process, to at least one other lifting column or to at least one lifting column selected at an earlier stage with the relevant master column in a sub-group, in order to cancel the previous selection thereof.

11. (Previously Presented) System as claimed in claim 3, wherein the selection means of the master column are adapted to transmit a delete signal, at the beginning of the selection process, to at least one other lifting column or to at least one lifting column selected at an earlier stage with the relevant master column in a sub-group, in order to cancel the previous selection thereof.

12. (Previously Presented) System as claimed in claim 7, wherein the identification is a designation of the master column, an identification of the identification card, a random number generated for instance by the master column or a date and time designation generated by the system.

13. (New) Method of claim 9, wherein the identification component is an identification card.

14. (New) Method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the identification includes at least one of a designation of the master column, an identification of the identification component, a random number generated for instance by the master column, and a date and time designation generated by the system.